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FRENCH THEATER, Fourteenth-st.—This Afternoon, GRAND OPERA HOUSE, cor. Eighth-ave, and Twen-

NEW-YORK CIRCUS,-This Afternoon at 2] and reuling at 8.—Grand Programme. All Ben Abdallah Troupe of Bedould NIMLO'S GARDEN, This Afternoon at 2 and Even-

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## New-York Daily Tribune.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1869.

# TRIPLE SHEET.

A victory by the insurgents near Remedies, a serious disturbance at Cardenas, and continued and conspicuous defections among the Spanish troops, are reported from Cuba. A manifesto for annexation by the Congress at Guimaro is for the first time given to the Americau public. The Bishop of Havana has been arrested for having absconded with the sum of \$100,000. The new Constitution for Porto Rico prohibits the discussion of Slavery. ==== In Spain, Carlist symptoms are again remarked, and the Duke of Genoa reckons upon 161 votes, thus far, for the throne. Official denial is given to the announcement that two Laberals, beside M. Ollivier, would enter Napoleon's Cabinet; but the latter has had an interview with the Emperor. M. Bancel has declared for the Republic as the object of Radical efforts in France. - Balls, banqueta, illuminations, Arabian horsemanship, and the voyage of the great flotilla, give interest to the chronicle of the Suez celebration. - Walter Brown won the intereational sculling match at London.

The disasters on the Lakes prove to be more numerous than were at first anticipated, and are accompanied by a serious loss of life. - By the falling of a building at St. Louis one workman was killed and several seriously injured, while others still remain buried under the ruins. A party of soldiers have been murdered by the Sioux, and a body of cavalry sent in pursuit returned ansuccessful. - The roof of the Chicago Skating Rink tell in yesterday from the weight of snow upon it.

The Brooklyn Post-Office robber has been sentenced to the State Prison for five years, - Justice Cardozo is investigating the case of the arrest and illegal extradition of an alleged criminal from Chautauqua County. The Shipbuilders' Convention has adopted various resolutions. - Dr. Wedekind is under arrest for getting money from a wife on pretense of furnishing her with drugs to poison her husband. ——
A policeman has been killed in First-ave. —— A jewelry manufacturer of Newark is reported to have failed for a large amount. - S. T. Blatchford is said to have been arrested. \_\_\_\_ The students at Bellevue Medical College are opposed to the admission of women to the clinics. - The examination into the drawback frands by Commissioner Osborn is progressing, ----- The Kings County canvass shows increased majorities for the Republican candidates, and the citizens of Williamsburgh publicly urge District-Attorney Morris to bring the perpetrators of the frauds to justice. - Gold, 1969, 1264,

126]. Temperature, 38, 48, 48, 46. We print on the first page the second article by Mr. Ripley on Humboldt's letters, a first paper on the Taird Winter Exhibition at the National Academy, and a conunuation of the brilliant series of Letters from Next Door; on the second page, Coal and Iron in Virginia and West Virginia, Theories of Earthquakes, American Ship Building and a Letter from Massachusetts; fourth, General Notes, Personal, and Local and General Miscellany; on the eighth careful reviews of Professor Pumpelly's narrative of Five Years' Journey Around the World, Mr. Davis's Spanish Conquest of New-Mexico, and the last volume of D'Aubigne's New Reformation, with Literary Notices, etc.; on the cloventh page a report of the Farmers' Club and Miscellany.

We say nothing concerning the claims which are reported to us as beginning to be urged in Washington in behalf of one Senator or another for the important position of Chairman of the Committee of Appropriations, made vacant by the death of Mr. Fessenden. We simply insist in advance that the Senate shall

carefully consider in filling this place to save his life. Some of his companions in the vital necessity of economy in the appropriations at the approaching session. Whoever Rebels. Hamilton made his way to the loyal takes the place ought to be a man able to do for that body some such work as Mr. Washburne long and faithfully, and with little recognition for valued services, performed in the

It is proposed in Spain to establish a penal colony on one of her islands in the Pacific, with a view to commercial relations with the United States. Does she want to build up another Cuba ?

The official majority of Nelson, for Secretary of State, is announced from Albany as 20,566, in a total vote of 641,196, a falling off of 208,554 from the vote of last year, of which the Republicans lose 109,078, and the Democrats 99,476. The majority for the Judicial Article of the Constitution, according to our returns from all the counties of the State except New-York, is 39,858. Of course no such majority as that was given against it ard. And now the champion of the more in this City by many thousands; but what return our Board of County Canvassers will present nobody but the canvassers can tell.

The National Woman Suffrage Delegate Convention will meet in Cleveland, O., on the 24th and 2.th inst., to form an American Woman Suffrage Association. Julia Ward them. Howe, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Lucy Stone, Mary A. Livermore, T. W. Higginson, and others will be present. We have already said concerning this movement that it presents an array of names from all parts of the country giving it some claim to the use of the words National Convention," and that these names bear such reputation as to constitute a sufficient guarantee that its proceedings will be at least worthy of thoughtful consideration.

In reply to a pleasant charge that M. Victor Hugo wished to divide France between himself and his sons, that greatly imaginative man replies that in such a case the first article of his National Constitution will be, "All French-'men are Hugos before the law." The double meaning of this large joke is worthy of 'L'Homme qui Rit;" but fancy all Frenchmen Hugos before the law. They would certainly be outlaws like the venerable exile himself, or else no law-at least none made except in the spirit of Les Miserables-could withstand them. For the present, at least, all Frenchmen cannot be Hugos-more is the pity; but if they can prove shrewd citizens and grasp a solid advantage while they forego ineffectual bloodshed, that will be something worthy of the man whose romance has taught Paris economy.

OUR NEW CIRCUIT JUDGES. For Judicial purposes, the United States are divided into nine Circuits, as follows:

I. Maine, New-Hampshire, Mussachusetts, Rhode Island. II. Connecticut, Vermont, New-York.

IV. Maryland, Virginia, W. Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina

V. Georgia, Alabama, Fiorida, Lonislana, Mississippi, Texas. VI. Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee.

VIII. Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Arkansas, Kausas, Nabraska

IX. California, Oregon, Nevada -Hitherto, each of the eight Justices of the Supreme Court, the Chief-Justice included, has performed the duties of Circuit Judge; but the vast expansion of the business of both Supreme and Circuit Courts has rendered their persistence in so doing impracticable : hence, by an act of Congress at its last session, a Circuit Judge is to be appointed next month for each Circuit, as well as a ninth Justice of the Supreme Court-no Justice having yet been designated to fill the place of the Hon. James M. Wayne of Georgia, deceased. We presume the new Justice will be selected from that district, or, at all events, from the South.

For the new Circuit Judges, it is under stood that the Hon. E. Rockwood Hoar (now Attorney-General) will be nominated by the President for the first Circuit. The fitness of the selection is very generally conceded.

For this Circuit, the leading names are those of the Hon. Lafayette S. Foster (late U. S. Senator) of Connecticut, and the Hon. Lewis B. Woodruff of this city. Mr. Foster has the higher political standing; Judge Woodruff has more judicial reputation; but either would fill the post worthily. There are a dozen aspirants for it; but we do not think any of them can

bear a comparison with these. For the sixth Circuit, it is understood that the Hon. Horace Maynard (now M. C.) of Tennessee is prominently considered.

In the fifth Circuit, Judge Durant of New-Orleans (at present sojourning in Washington) is conspicuous among those named as eligible.

Doubtless, the President will ponder long and earnestly before making these important nominations. If a mistake is made in an Executive appointment, it may be promptly corrected; but a bad Judicial appointment is irrevocable. It is, therefore, of vital moment that the Justices now to be appointed shall be the very best who can be persuaded to accept the position. And there are not many good lawyersand no bad ones-who are likely to decline it.

## MISSISSIPPI-TEXAS.

These two States hold their elections on Tuesday, the 30th inst., when their Constitutions are to be passed upon, and State Officers, including Legislatures, with Representatives in Congress, chosen in each. The contest in each is spirited; but there is no doubt that the Constitution of each will be ratified; the proscriptive clauses of the Mississippi instrument being voted down. No such were framed in

Texas. In Mississippi, both parties seem to be sanguine; yet we think that headed by Col. Alcorn, and which is Republican without qualification, has the better prospect. Col. Alcorn is an undoubted Mississippian, Judge Dent a carpet-bagger; and the olds is important, and must tell. If Alcorn should be beaten, we shall suspect that many Blacks have felt constrained to vote as their employers wished, not as the voters would have chosen. The canvass has been long and aptrited, and the vote will doubtless be large.

In Texas, the chances seem to be altogether favorable to the ticket headed by Gen. Andrew J. Hamilton for Governor, with Boulds Baker for Lieutenant; though Col. Edward J. Davis, the rival candidate for Governor, fairly claims to be the regular Republican candidate, and will poll a good vote. But Col. D. favors a division of the State; and we judge the majority not yet ready for that. It would insuch increase generally acceptable.

All the leading candidates were Union men in the War; but Gen. Hamilton's record is a specially honorable one. He was in Congress when his State seceded (as they said:) he remained there, and made a speech evincing invincible devotion to the Union. When Con- that which is given to the commander. | -Yes, that is very good; and we trust Miss gress adjourned, he went home, and stood up To be able to tie a femoral artery, or reduce an Thompson will accept one of these (or a bet-

that flight were overtaken and killed by the States, and there did his best for the Union cause till its final triumph. Then he made his way home again, and renewed the struggle under more favorable auspices. He attended the Southern Loyalists' Convention at Philadelphia in 1866, and thence traversed the Free States with Brownlow and others, speaking effectively for the Good Cause. About those days, he was the best abused man in Texas, charged with every crime up to murder in journals now zealously supporting him for Governor! Such are the revenges of "the "whirligig of Time."

Elected to the Constitutional Convention, Gen. Hamilton bore a leading part therein as a champion of Universal Amnesty with Impartial Suffrage. Col. Davis preferred to deal more harshly with those who had been Rebels; but Gen. Hamilton's views ultimately prevailed, and such a constitution was framed as would have saved Virginia to the Republican standgenerous policy is about to be chosen Governor, in good part by the votes of men who deplored their inability to catch and hang him a few years ago. And certainly, if any man has reason to be vindictive toward the Rebels, that man is Jack Hamilton. But wisdom justifies her children, while being justified by

We presume either party will elect some Representatives to Congress from either State. The XVth Amendment will be ratified by each, as Congress makes that essential to their reconstruction and readmission.

HALF-BRED INDEPENDENCE. The Red River insurrection, insignificant as it first appeared, points to wider consequences than have been practically anticipated by the royal establishment in Canada. How far does the Indian Bill of Rights harmonize with the Columbian plea for annexation? To what extent is the democratic spirit of mutiny in Nova in consequence of not taking it. Yet this the Scotia related to the Winnipeg protest against a Government not elected by the people? Does any similarity exist between the feeling which impels the Newfoundlanders to dislike the titled and heterogeneous Confederation, and objections of this sort, nor indeed do we at that which threw the half-breeds into line with the Declaration of Independence? Do the great body of Canadians desire a Government of few hints which have a bearing upon the subinert respectability, qualified with an imperial system of Disallowances, any more than do the Chippewas a Governor who may act precisely as he pleases? Are our British American friends disposed to sneer at the Columbians and Indians, and absurdly throw the blame of their discontent upon emissaries of ours, when in their own Confederation the standard of Independence, has, with the approbation of more than one English gentleman, been raised? Is that astute Governor-General who avewedly foresees that his Confederation is tired of leading-strings, blind to the fact that some of the States are annoyed with illogical tetherings? These questions Canada may ask herself with profit, and without any risk of being in the smallest degree disloyal to herself. Half-bred independence is one thing; ther-

oughbred is another. The demands of the half-breeds, and perhaps others of Red River. are mainly the right to elect their Legislature, the place of which is taken by a council appointed by Gov. McDougall solely; the legislative power to overwhelm a veto by a twothirds vote: homestead and preëmption laws, and internal improvements; and the support of their officials for a given number of years to be paid out of the Dominion. The last demand, our British brethren may fancy, contrasts ungratefully with the others, and Gov. tory which is to be a charge upon the public ought to be ruled at the discretion of those who clothe it with authority and feed it with offices. But, upon the whole, it may be cheaper to give the half-breeds their rights and a bounty beside, than maintain the disaffection of 15,000 people, well-organized, unitedly resolved, aware of their backwoods advantages and used to them, and so isolated that the only British route to them open to troops would be by ship to Hudson Bay, and thence 500 miles by means of canoes and across numerous portages. Gov. McDougall, we understand, is anxions to pass troops through United States territory, which may be one sufficient reason why Canadian officials should deny any disposition to act with legislative hostility against our shortcomings in reciprocity; but even this plan involves trouble long-drawn ont. From the text presented by the Red River difficulty the administration of Canada may learn a profitable lesson in the art of governing States contiguous to a republic; and, as we have said, it is only a symptom of half-bred independence. The real question is what the Thoroughbred will be.

## LINE AND STAFF.

Our Navy is the apple of the national eye, and we are sorry that it is just at this moment an apple of discord. Whatever concerns the prosperity and honor of that service concerns the prosperity and honor of all citizens, and therefore the rather peppery contest between the line and the staff, upon a question of rank, invites the earnest attention of a good many people who do not exactly know the difference between line and staff, or between a bowsprit and a capstan-bar. It is not easy to ascertain the precise merits of the controversy. But we shall convey an approximate idea thereof to our readers by saying that certain civil personages, as doctors, pursers, chaplains, and the like, necessarily allied with the service, do not at present take the official rank to which they are thought to be entitled, and the purpose, warmly urged by the staff, and as eagerly combated by the line, is to rehabilitate the system-to slightly exalt the men of money, medicine, and prayer, in order to equalize the moral altitude of the various departments of the service.

Relative official status is something which ought to be determined by common sense, and not by tradition or professional prejudice. There was never yet a pursy and swaggering Brigadier, with a cock feather in his hat and a sword between his legs, who would not, if he could, fix his own claims to distinction much higher than those he would admit on behalf of a Pishop, or a Professor of Greek, or an eminent artist. Nor is it likely that the officer who walks about the quarter-deck and says "Luff!" thinks that the other officer in the infirmary, who feels pulses and prescribes powders, is so great a man as himself, or oncrease officers and taxes; and the losses of the titled to so much emolument or so much War are too recent to render the prospect of titular and other distinction. But plain men who bring a little plain wisdom to bear upon the subject don't think that the Brigadier is greater than the bishop, or the professor, or the artist, and they consider that the natural and the acquired qualifications of the surgeon entitle him to as much distinction as for the Union till compelled to flee to Mexico aneurism, implies as exact and laborious intel- | ter) and do great good to her hearers. And, I mercial community.

lectual discipline as it does to perform the more dashing and conspicuous functions which devolve upon the sailing master or the flag officer.

In respect to the disbursing officer, who is included in the scheme of titular exaltation, it is not necessary to say much, except that it is impossible to honor too highly the man who pays out money. The business does not rank among the liberal or learned professions, though it is certainly liberal, and its practitioners are not necessarily unlearned. The purser who pays may be as intellectual a person as the peet who does not pay, or the philosopher who would pay if he had got it; in which case, shoulder-straps and ceremonies of salutation would seem to befit him who hands over the money as well as the lieutenant or other officer who merely spends it.

According to the averment of the line, certain practical difficulties attend the giving of high official titles to the staff. It may even happen, for example, that a surgeon of long standing may sometimes technically outrank his commanding officer. It is true that this might lead to embarrassment. The Doctor might, on a critical occasion, emerge from the cock-pit, dubious and drowsy with the odor of drugs, and enfeebled by prolonged diagnostics, and command the ship to strike its colors in the face of the enemy. Civilians are timorous, Doctors notably so. He that purges and runs away may live to purge another day. So would our Doctor possibly reason, and discredit would thereupon fall upon the service which admitted him to so lofty a place upon its rolls.

Moreover, if the Doctor outranks nearly every person on shipboard, his prescriptions are in the nature of commands, and any patient except the Admiral who omitted to bolt a bolus, or swallow a powder, would be guilty of mutiny. It is rather a pathetic alternative to place before marine and midshipman to lose either his stomach in consequence of the pill, or his life line can, with some show of candor, advance as one of the consequences of yielding to the ambitious aspirations of the staff. We do not attach much weight to present undertake a serious discussion of the subject at large, but we merely throw out a ject, and which serve to show the complication in which it is involved. It will be a matter of general felicitation if the questions under discussion are settled to the satisfaction of all concerned, and without absolutely distracting consequences to the peace of our peaceful Congress at the approaching session. We don't like to have our naval service swarming with discontented doctors and unduly subordinated priests, and imperfectly appreciated paymasters-so we hope that staff and line will settle their differences upon some basis of gentleness and generosity, and benceforward pray, pay, fight, and physic in affectionate and fraternal unison, without making a naval campaign the whole Winter through on the dreadfully dry land of Washington.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

Much speculation is affoat as to the probable utility and profit of the new Ship Canal uniting the waters of the Mediterranean with those of the Red Sea by a canal eighteen feet deep and wide enough to allow steamships of a thousand tuns to pass in opposite directions without difficulty.

Our strong conviction is that three-fourths in value of the trade between Europe on the one hand and India, China, and Japan, on the other will ultimately pass through this chan-McDougall may argue to himself that a terri- nel. It may be that it will require deepening and even widening in its shallowest and narrowest portions; it may be that vessels must be built expressly adapted to this route; but the truth that "Time is money" is decisive on the main point. No Silks, no Teas, no Opium, no Spices, no Fabrics, will be shipped around Africa when they can be transported from London to Bombay in one-half, to Calcutta in little more, and to Canton in twothirds of the time, by way of the now united Mediterranean and Red Seas. Cotton, Sugar, Hemp, Jute, and other bulky staples, may for a time be still sent by sail around the Cape of Good Hope; but ultimately these also will be taken by steam through the new and spacious Snez Canal.

No bygone canal connecting those two seas' bore any comparison to this in magnitude or capacity. Each was a paltry ditch, traversed only by such canal-boats as we used to have on the Erie before it was enlarged. Such a canal would be filled up for miles by one great sand-storm; while the lack of steam was fatal to its economic and rapid transit. The case is bravely altered by the genins of Watt and of Fulton, the daring of Lesseps, and the resources, both in money and machinery, which were lavishly placed at his disposal by French capitalists, under the favor of their Government. Looking dispassionately at the new Canal, we predict that it will become one of the great highways of commerce and change the destinies of Asia, while reviving the commercial importance of the Mediterranean Sea.

The Christian Leader has a letter from Fort Hays, Kansas, in the heart of the buffalo re-

gion, which says: "At one time this vast region was the bottom of an ocean, and the innumerable dry water courses prove that at a later period an abundance of rain fell on these now parched Plains. Old inhabitants affirm that the quantity of rain is increasing, while new and more valuable grasses are superseding those which once gave the Plains the name of desert. Again I ask, Why don't more people. young men and young women, come West! Why will they crowd into our already overcrowded cities, where the very atmosphere has a moral taint, while the great and glorious West needs their presence ! Here, industry eastern part of this State seems to be the poor young man's most desired haven, and fortunes are not difficult to make anywhere on the line of the railroad, and on the Arkansas River to the mountains. We have already too many idlers and traders. We want farmers and stock-

-Yes; and you will continue to want them, because half our people have determined to crowd into cities, and live by some vocation that adds nothing to the substantial wealth of mankind: while Nature reiterates the Divine injunction, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou oat bread." Human perverseness is very sturdy. but the laws of the universe are stronger yet, and those who will not obey them must pay the penalty of their violation. We could not help it if we would; and we are not quite sure that we would if we could,

The Rev. Olympia Brown, who preaches, we think, to a Universalist society in Bridgeport, Conn., writes to a friend that " Mise Marianna Thompson, now a student at the Theelegical school received, during her Summer vacation two invitations to cettle with good Societies, each of

Pretty good for a school girl, I think."

should some excellent young man ask her to POLITICAL ECONOMY. " settle" with him as wife at no salary at all, we advise her to heed that "call" as well. We have not the least objection to a thousand young (or old) women being settled as pastors, provided they are qualified to prove good ones.

We grieve to say that an old and eloquent friend of ours, who has often been particularly mentioned in these columns-the American Demosthenes, otherwise known as Mr. George Francis Train-is most disrespectfully spoken of by several of the Western journals, and that he never was pasquipaded before with such versatility of rhetoric and ingenuity of abuse, except, may be, in some Woman's Convention. He is called, 1. "An addlepated swin-'dle-bag;" 2. He is thus addressed: "Good by, 'old windy; good-by, old gas-pipe; go home and soak your head in whisky, so as to give "some strength to your apology for brains"all which, to say the least, is not complimentary to Mr. Train phrenologically. We must, with all our force, protest against this light method of mentioning a man who, in our opinion, can in one hour talk more and say less than any other being that ever existed or is ever likely to exist. Honor to whom

According to The Chicago Tribune, the trial at Geneva of the Rev. Mr. Smith for the murder of his wife "was conducted on the part of the lawyers with no mean ability, but with a levity unbecoming to them professionally and derogatory to if not destructive of the dignity that should obtain in a court of justice, especially in a trial for life." If Mr. Smith had been convicted, instead of being acquitted, he would, we suppose, have been sentenced humorously and turned off jocosely, while the verdict itself might have been couched in a conundrum. There was a time when it was common for those about to be executed to make little dying jokes with the rope around their necks; but it was when men were hung by wholesale for every offense from larceny to rape. We have been, of late years, making hanging rather cheap in this country; and one result is that a good many people have come to consider it quite a funny process.

We have heard of the production of odd evidence in court, like that of the ostler's will mentioned by Mr. Dickens, which was chalked on a stable door. We have seen a baby offered in a delicate case, to show that it resembled its putative father. We remember a large door produced in a New-England court as a book of original entry; but a subpena issued to bring in a lion is a real novelty. This actually occurred in the Superior Court at Cincinnati the other day, in the case of replevin for a lioness and her cubs. It was argued that the progeny had been appraised at too high a figure, and the Court ordered a view. So one of the cubs was brought in with his negro keeper, and demeaned himself with a mildness and meekness which should have been edifying to the lawyers. The Judge looked at the lion, and, like the first Daniel was not afraid, but decided that the young beast had un-doubtedly been over-valued.

The St. Louis Republican solemnly commences an editorial article as follows: "It is with sincere regret that we are compelled to notice that our city is about to lose one of its greatest adornments, and at the same time one of its best citizens!" "Good heavens!" said we, to ourselves, " what calamity threatens this most respectable and heretofore thriving village? What public monument is about to "fall? What public character is about to expire?" Soon as our feelings permitted us to do so, we resumed the reading, and found that a thriving St. Louis tailor was on the point of removing to New-York, and that "the greatest "adorument" was the tailor's shop. This affords an additional argument for transporting the Capital to St. Louis, that the poor inhabitants may have some compensation for the loss of their incomparable tailor.

A curious instance of the way in which surnames are changed by time, by independent, personal orthography, and by local pronunciation, is shown in the fact that the ancestors of the late Mr. George Peabody, who emigrated to Topsfield, Mass., in 1635, spelled their surname "Paybody;" and the name in Rhode Island was and is so pronounced, but is spelled " Pabodie." The actual origin of the name we can only conjecture. It may have been some corrupt alliance of the French "pays" and the Saxon "body," Iquasi "countryman;" it may have referred to some "pea"-like rotundity of the "body;" and it may have been quasi "paymaster." The study of the origin of surnames, though a tolerably entertaining one, is extremely irritating on account of its uncer-

The excellent Mr. Elizur Wright, who was once one of the ornaments of our profession, but who now hardly ever sends anything, we are sorry to say, to the newspapers, prints in The Boston Daily Advertiser a highly interesting article on the influence of trees on the public health. His position is that taken by German physiologists, that, "as air purifies, every dense population must have trees or die too fast by half." He is for converting all the marshes in the vicinity of a great city into forests, and he is also for planting trees upon the public streets. . Mr. Wright gives many historical evidences of the purifying influence of forests in absorbing atmospheric poisons, and concludes by calling water closests "the abomination of desolation," and is altogether very enthusiastic and amusing.

We notice an amusing instance of the German mind to magnify and make the most of whatever may have happened, is happening, or is about to happen, may have been written, is being written, or may possibly be written, may have been discovered, has just been discovered, or should be discovered in this world or the next. The genius which produces enormous folios on a single Greek word has betaken itself to the velocipede, astride which the authors and artists of Germany, not content with brief home excursions, are now taking long tours-for aught we know, as far as Palestine-in search of sacred subjects or ancient manuscripts. We expect soon to hear that some adventurous Teuton has ascended Mt. Blanc upon his highly-improved bicycle.

The Boston Daily Advertiser, a newspaper as far as possible from any morbid sympathy with criminals, thus speaks of the release from imprisonment of Edward B. Ketchum: "He has, in accordance with the law, gained eight months of time by his conduct, and now steps forth from the prison a felon [Wrong-he is a felon no longer-TRIBUNE.], but with the sympathy which should follow one who has abundantly expiated his crime, and comes forth with a purpose to deserve, if he does which officed her twelve hundred deliars per year "not receive, the respect of his fellow-men once more." These are words of justice and truth, and, considering the standing of The Advertiser, should have great weight with a com-

BY HORACE GREELEY. XXIII

SPECIFIC-AD VALOREM-MINIMUM. A specific duty is one which exacts so much money per yard, per pound, per tun, on the importation of an article, without regard to fluctuations in the value or price of that article. An ad valorem duty exacts such a per centage of the appraised, sworn, or invoice, value of the article or articles imported. A minimum is established when the act provides that all Woolen dress cloths (for instance) which are invoiced, appraised, or sworn, to be worth or to have

cost less than one dollar per square yard, shall be

taken and deemed to have cost \$1 per square yard,

and charged with duty accordingly.

I am not aware that the minimum principle was employed in framing any American Tariff prior to 1816, when Mr. Lowndes of South Carolina proposed that all imported Cotton fabrics invoiced or appraised as costing less than twenty-five cents per square vard should be taken and deemed to have cost that sum, and charged with duty accordingly. The duty on Cotton fabrics being fixed at twenty-five per cent., this provision raised the impost on all imported Sheetings, Shirtings, Calicoes, &c., to 64 cents per square yard at the lowest, and thus gave to our infant Cotton manufacture a protection which enabled it to flourish and expand throughout the succeeding years. Indeed, Mr. Calhoun, in defending this provision, frankly stated that its object was to place the stability and growth of that manufacture beyond contingency-as it did. For, though twenty-five cents per square yard may have been a fair estimate of the average value of Cotton fabrics when that Tariff was framed, yet the rapid expansion of our Cotton culture, resulting in lower and yet lower prices for the staple, paralleled by the strides continually made in inventions which rendered more effective the machinery and processes for spinning and weaving the staple, cheapening at once production and product, ultimately reduced the price of many common but serviceable Cotton fabrics below ten cents per square yard; so that the duty, though still nominally twenty-five per cent., was more efficiently Protective than would have been one of one hundred per cent. lacking the mini-

A cardinal objection to Ad Valorem duties, upon imported articles which compete directly and depressingly with the products of our own industry, is this: Such duties must always be lowest when they should be highest, and highest when the need of them is least. Let us suppose, for illustration, that British Pig Iron of fair quality can be sent to us at a cost of £4 or \$20 per tun; and the duty is thereupon fixed at 25 per cent., making the cost in this city of the British Pig \$25 (gold) per tun; while our smelters can just afford to make at that price. But the British product is put down to \$15 per tun; consequently, the duty falls to threefourths of its former amount, reducing the price of British Pig in our market below \$30 per tun, and compelling a large proportion of our furnaces to suspend operations. Should the British makers decide to reduce, for a time, their price to \$10 per tun. the duty would fall to \$24, making the total cost at our wharves \$124. Laws thus framed, so far from protecting Home Industry, lie in wait to ensuare it to its ruin.

The Iron-masters of Pennsylvania assembled at Philadelphia in 1849 to petition Congress against the maintenance of the Polk-Walker ad valorem Tariff of 1846. In their memorial, they say: When the price of iron is high abroad, the duty

is high at home, giving to the American manufac-turer an incidental protection which continues so long as the market remains high; but, so goon as the foreign market fluctuates, the duty falls with it; so that, at the time when the highest duty is needed to enable American manufacturers to sustain a compe ition with the foreign manufacturers, the protection is taken away—thus acting as a sliding scale against the American manufacturer. When the Tariff act of 1846 was passed, the thirty per cent. dutyon the price of iron at Liverpool (\$50) was \$15 per tun; the cost and duty added made the price \$65. But, for the last two years, the price has fallen from \$50 to \$27 per tun, and the duty from \$15 to \$8 per tun, making the tun, and the duty from the despertual manufactures cost of iron and duty \$35 per tun—a fluctuation of \$30 per tun. To sustain the American manufacturer, he requires the recease of the operation of the present ad valorem duty. When the price abroad is highest, he needs the least duty, and when it is lowest he requires the highest."

After showing that the American production of Iron had decidedly increased under the operation of the Protective Tariff of 1842, they proceed to state

'The fluctuations in price which have ensued from this large production have been of late years so great as to cast in the shade all other commercial changes of price. The range of these fluctuations in pig iron during the last ten years is from £1 18s. to £5 12s. 6d.; and in bar iron, from £4 10s. to £13, or about 200 per

"In one extremity of this fluctuation, British iron becomes too high to import under a revenue duty; in the other, too low to admit of home production. In the one extreme, one cannot afford to use it; in tha other, it paralyzes our efforts to manufacture for our-

The legislation asked by American manufacturers deserves not the odium so frequently heaped upon it. We know that we can furnish to the con-sumers of this country a million of tuns of iron sumers of this country a million of tuns of iron cheaper and better than it can be had abroad. We ask for defense against those commercial fluctuations which occur in Great Britain, from causes wholly originating there, and which, while they thrust down the prices of iron there far below the cost of making, throw large and while they thrust down the prices of from there far below the cost of making, throw large and irregular quantities into our ports, disturbing the regular course of industry here; breaking down our markets, and carrying ruin at each such invasion into many establishments. If we ask aid against such irregularities, it is no more than we should be obliged to do if the manufacture in the United States were as greatly developed as in Great Britain, and enjoying, in all respects, equal advantages. If that were the case, each of the equally powerful competitors would seek to relieve their home markets in seasons of depression, by thrusting the rejected surplus upon his rival; and each would seize the opportunity of high prices in the other to make large exports, until both markets, unable to maintain any high prices to compensate for unfavorable periods, would sink into hopeless depression, and the business perish or be greatly impaired. Against such consequences, both would appeal to their respective Governments for protection, not for monopoly; for that security against ruinous fluctuations, and that regularity in sales indispensable to the success of industry. Competitors at home en observe their mutual progress. fluctuations, and that regularity in sales indispensable to the success of industry. Competitors at home can observe their mutual progress, and take their measures of defense in time; but that competition which comes from abroad cannot be watched, nor preparations made for its sudden inroads. If the British manufacturer is prevented from flooding our markets at less than the average price upon which his business thrives, a mere revenue duty will be ample protection against the great advantage he enjoys, of employing labor at less than half the cost paid in the United States,"

As to the effect of Protection on prices a forcible

As to the effect of Protection on prices, a forcible statement was made by the Committee on Iron of the friends of Domestic Industry at their Convention held in this City in November, 1831. They say:

"The average price of bar iron in 1828 was \$118\forall.
In that year, an addition to the duty on hammered iron was made of \$4 40 per tun, and on rolled of \$7. In the following year, the price fell to \$14\forall, and in 1830 to \$95\forall; showing a decline in two years of \$21\text{per tun, in face of the increased duty above mentioned: a decline effected exclusively by domestic competition, inasmuch as no corresponding decline took place abroad, and the fall here was greatest in those markets which are inaccessible to foreign iron."

It is remarkable that our Free-Traders, who harp so constantly on the practice and experience of other civilized nations as approving or confirming their theories, rarely or never allude to the strong preference of nearly all Europe for specific duties. The Zoll-Verein of Germany taxes nearly or quite every import by weight-so much per [pound, per cwt., per tun-and this basis of taxation is very generally preferred for its honesty, its simplicity, and its inflexibility. In an inquiry made in 1840 by a Select Committee of the House of Commons, whereof that eminent Free-Trader, Joseph Hume, was Chairman, Dr. John Bowring (also a decided Free-Trader) testified as follows:

Question 831.-What manufactures have made and creation sal.—What maintaincures have make and are making most progress in Germany? Answer I. Certainly, those which have grown up spontaneously, without any protection. Q. 852. What are they? A. The hosiery trade is the most remarkable. I A. The hosiery trade is the most remark believe at this moment the cotton-frames of Saxony are equal to if they do not exceed in number these of this country. The manufactures which are suffering the Saxony are the manufactures of modern inmost in Saxony are the manufactures of modern in-

1 The History of the Iron Trade of the United States. By B. C. French. New-York, 1333.

\*Report of the School Committee on Import Daties, together with the Minutes of Kridence: Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed. Aug. 5, 1649.